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ABSTRACT

This book is designed for parents who have trouble understanding their school-aged children's grades, report cards, and test scores. It helps them make sense of school reports and offers resources to open communications between parents and teachers. The seven chapters focus on: (1) "Getting Started" (e.g., what grading and reporting mean, whether they are essential, and how to develop a reporting system); (2) "Perceptions and Responsibilities" (e.g., parent, teacher, and student perceptions of grading and reporting); (3) "Challenges for Teachers in Grading and Reporting" (e.g., limiting subjectivity, clarifying learning criteria, and relating evidence to purpose); (4) "Grading and Reporting Methods" (e.g., letter grades, categorical grades, and percentage grades); (5) "Special Issues in Grading and Reporting" (e.g., grading on the curve, selecting valedictorians, and setting grade cutoffs); (6) "Developing Better Grading and Reporting Systems" (e.g., the importance of purpose, the challenge of effective communication, and technology and grading); and (7) "Making Improvements in Grading and Reporting" (working with teachers, working with children, and gradual change strategies). (Contains 120 references.) (SM)

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